



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Christophe Pierrat et al.

Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR OPTIMIZING PRINTING OF A PHASE SHIFT MASK HAVING A PHASE SHIFT ERROR

Docket No.: 303.311US2

Serial No.: 09/503,553

Filed: February 11, 2000

Due Date: December 11, 2002

Examiner: Khaled Brown

Group Art Unit: 2851

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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We are transmitting herewith the following attached items (as indicated with an "X"):

- ☒ A return postcard.
- ☒ An Amendment and Response (10 Pages).
- ☒ A Clean Version of Pending Claims (11 pgs.).
- ☒ A check in the amount of \$510.00 to cover the fee for additional claims as calculated below.

If an additional fee is required due to changes to the claims, the fee has been calculated as follows:

CLAIMS AS AMENDED						
	(1) Claims Remaining After Amendment		(2) Highest Number Previously Paid For	(3) Present Extra	Rate	Fee
TOTAL CLAIMS	45	-	40	5	x 18 =	\$90.00
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	21	-	16	5	x 84 =	\$420.00
[ ] MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS PRESENTED						\$0.00
TOTAL						\$510.00

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for sufficient number of months to enter these papers and please charge any additional required fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on this 11 day of December, 2002.

Tina Kahl  
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Signature

Customer Number 21186

SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG, WOESSNER & KLUTH, P.A.  
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PATENT

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**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
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Applicant has reviewed the Office Action mailed on September 11, 2002. Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend claims 23, 27, 29, 32, 36, 39, 40, 51 and 57, and add new claims 63 - 67 by substituting the claim set in the appendix entitled Clean Version of Pending Claims for the previously pending claim set. The specific amendments to individual claims are detailed in the following marked up set of claims.

23. (Amended) A system, comprising:  
an illuminator;  
a phase shifting mask; and  
a restrictor [adapted for adjusting] to restrict light from passing through a first region having a first perimeter and to pass light through a second region between the first perimeter and a second perimeter that surrounds the first perimeter, the restrictor to adjust illumination parameters associated with the first perimeter and the second perimeter to compensate for a phase shift error in the phase shifting mask.

27. (Amended) A system, comprising:  
an illuminator;  
a phase shifting mask; and  
a restrictor [adapted] to provide off-axis illumination, the restrictor to restrict light from